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MI TSUKAI

A SEMI-ANNUAL RECORD OF THE LIFE AND WORK
OF THE COWLEY FATHERS IN JAPAN

St. Michael's Monastery, Oyama, Tochigi Ken, Japan, 323
St. John's House, Higashi Kurume-shi, Tokyo, Japan, 188

WINTER, 1970 No. 59

Rice Harvest near St. Michael's Monastery.
"Pray that the Lord will send forth laborers into his harvest."
Matt. 9:38.

DEATH OF THE PRIMATE

The Most Rev. Michael Hinsuke Yashiro, Primate of the Nippon Seikokai, and Bishop of the Diocese of Kobe, departed this life at 8:45 a.m., October 10, 1970, at the Kobe Central University Hospital, where he had been a patient since early in September. The cause of his death was peritonitis resulting from cancer.

Bp. Yashiro was born March 3, 1900, in the city of Hakodate, Hokkaido. He studied at Rikkyo University, Tokyo, and after being ordained priest in 1927 by the late Bp. Basil Simpson of Kobe (an Associate of our Society), he studied for two years at Kelham Theological College in England. He was serving at St. Michael's Church, Kobe, when he was elected Suffragan Bishop in 1940, and became Bishop of the Diocese in 1942. He was chosen as Presiding Bishop of the Seikokai in 1947, and at the General Synod of 1968 the title was officially changed to Primate.

Although Bp. Yashiro was not directly concerned with the work of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, he was always friendly towards us. And in the past few years he called upon Bp. Viall several times to assist by taking confirmations when his own health, and the pressure of his other responsibilities, would not permit him to officiate around the Diocese of Kobe.

Last year he was largely responsible for the establishment of the Kobe Priory of the Kelham Fathers. We are thankful for this, because it gives us the companionship of another community for men in the Japanese Church.

Fr. Allen represented the Society at Bp. Yashiro's funeral, which was attended by more than 2,500 people.

Our Bishop Associate, the Rt. Rev. John Naohiko Okubo, has been chosen to be acting Primate until the next General Synod, which is to be held April 20–22 in Osaka.

Bishop Yashiro at the Consecration of the new Bishop of Hokkaido, Oct. 1969.

SERMON AT BISHOP YASHIRO'S FUNERAL BY BISHOP JOHN N. OKUBO

Ephesians 3:17–19.

There are many things I would like to say today in this memorial address for our most respected and admired Bishop Michael Yashiro, but I have been given only a few minutes, therefore it would be difficult to say them all. I miss the late Bishop very much. Now, from the hidden recesses of my heart I can think

of one point about which I want to talk today.

The Bible verses which I have just read are from the letter St. Paul sent to part of the people of Ephesus, praying for the Church at that particular place. Reading it carefully you can see St. Paul recollects Jesus Christ living within him. We can see here his confession of the Lord's grandeur and the Lord's greatness. He writes about how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is.

Now, if we substitute our popular word *character* (*hitogara*) for the word *love* as the fundamental theme of Gospel ethics, it will be more easily understood, and that will be all right I think.

How broad, long, high, and deep is the character of Jesus Christ. St. Paul recollects now the Lord Jesus living within him, and writes about it to the people of the Ephesian Church.

Of course I miss Bishop Yashiro now. Everyone, individually, holds some kind of image in his heart of the late Bishop, doesn't he? He was our leader, calling to us, putting his hand on our shoulder, saying, "do this", or "do that".

I have many memories hidden in my heart. Each one of you must also hold some sort of portrait of him. For some people this is probably that of a deeply compassionate father. For other people it may be that of an awesome father. For still others the form of a strong chief may appear. But whatever form each one has individually within his heart, those hidden images will have one common feature, that he was a great man.

At the time when I learned that the Bishop had died, I had just met my son for personal business. I said to my son, "I have just been notified that Bishop Yashiro has died." My son answered in a small voice, "a giant star has fallen." This was the word which was in my son's heart describing the late Bishop. "A great star has fallen".

From the time of the War, and continuing after the War until now, the Nippon Seikokai, facing many troubles, has been led and directed by the image of this great man. Whatever turn of mind is in each of us, this one phrase, "he was a great man", is absolutely common to us all.

This does not mean only that he was a big man in the physical sense. His heart also, and his character were great, as I think everyone can remember.

St. Paul had an eternal great presence living in his heart. And he wrote about how broad, how long, how high, and how deep is that great character of the Lord Jesus.

I want today, along with all of you, to recollect that which is within me which describes how broad, how long, how high, and how deep was the character of the late Bishop.

Because there is not enough time to talk about each word, one by one, we must forego doing all of that, but when I remember the width, length, height, and depth of this great man's character, the form of a truly great man, I also remember that it was the breadth, length, height, and depth of the character of the Lord Jesus which he cherished in his heart. I remember that he always spoke deeply of this.

In my official duties as secretary of the House of Bishops I often had various conferences with him, and when travelling, how many times I had had the experience of sharing the same room. When we went to sleep, I can recall his form, and I cannot forget the greatness in his heart.

The late Bishop Michael Yashiro has left a great shadow in the heart of each

of us, now that he has already left this world. God gave this man to the Nippon Seikokai, but now for some reason God has taken him from us. Now in our inner man we remember again that this man's heart was great. Again I think we want to praise God's Holy Name for the greatness which was in this man.

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KANGAE

(Thoughts from the Father Provincial)

It is nothing new to say that this is an age of unrest. But I think we Christians need to be careful about the way in which we face the problems of our times. On every side we see reactions and attitudes which fall short of that steadfast faith, hope and love which our Lord taught His disciples, and which the Apostles, and other saints, have taught down through the ages as the marks of a mature Christian.

One can hardly pick up a Church magazine or paper without reading either words of despair, or anger, on the one hand, or unbridled zeal for change on the other. If we are to believe all that we read, the outlook for the future of the Church looks bleak indeed. If we make too many changes there are those who say they will leave the Church. If we don't make enough changes, or don't make them soon enough (or in the "right way"), there are others who will leave the Church, so they say.

There are few, if any, clear answers to the problems which plague both the Church and Society in general today. But this I do know, that through the various periods of history there have been other times when men were saying much the same sort of things as are being said now, and yet the Church has

St. Alban's Church, Tochigi City, served by the Fathers twice a month.

Fr. Allen, Bp. Imai, Transfiguration Sisters, Sr. Setsuko, CN, and retreatants at Sendai. *(p. 8.)*

survived for almost 2,000 years.

The best answer to the problems of our age, or more accurately the best way in which to find the answer, is to seek through prayer, and study, to find that depth and breadth and length and height of the faith, hope and love which our Lord and His Apostles taught as essential to the true way of life which leads to God.

In Japan we have not had the same sort of problems with various ecumenical schemes and projects that have bothered other parts of the Church. As readers of MITSUKAI probably realize, this is not to say that there is not ecumenical activity and concern in Japan, rather that it has not taken the form of schemes for Church Union, beyond that imposed upon Japanese Christian bodies during the war (which the Seikokai, for the most part, stayed out of). But this condition is both a positive and a negative thing. It is positive because it shows that we are not taken up with merely organizational aspects of Christianity. But it is negative because it shows that there are still many who are not concerned about showing a united Christianity to those who are not Christians (who make up the greatest part of the Japanese population). This is a paradox, which we should try to understand on its deeper levels, rather than in the surface manifestations.

What are we to do? Here again there are few clear answers. But one of the things which we can do, not only in Japan, but in other parts of the world as well, is to try to work together with other Christians, and even with those of other religions, in those areas which are not controversial. Working together in those areas, we can get to know one

another better, and then, God willing, the areas of controversy should grow smaller, and understanding grow deeper.

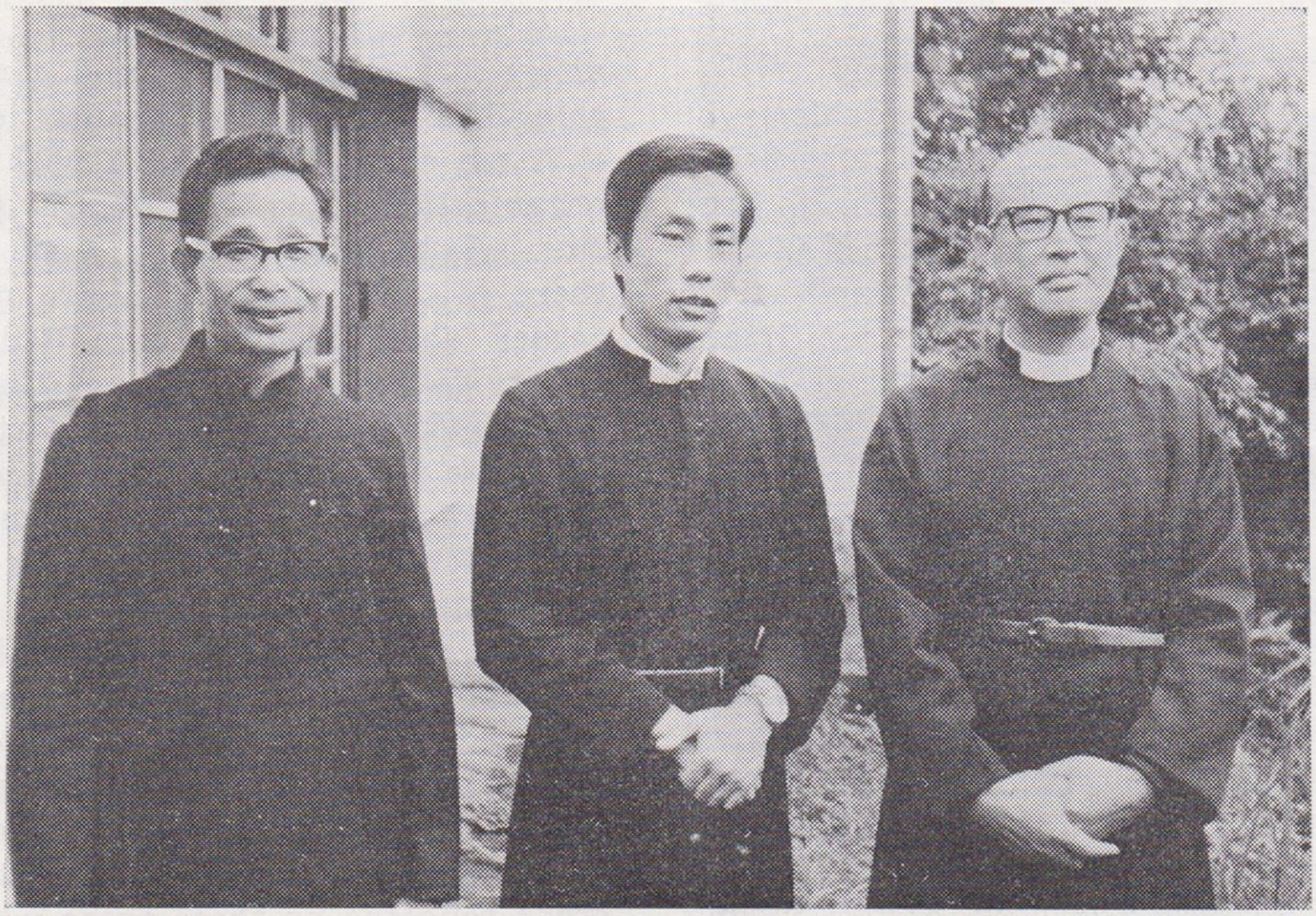
The recent death of Bishop Michael Yashiro, Primate of the Nippon Seikokai, may cause unrest for some who fear that there is no one who can take the place of a leader of such greatness. But it should be remembered that he was scheduled to retire at the end of this year, having passed his 70th birthday. In any case we should be ready to trust the Church to new leadership, with faith that God will ultimately guide it in the right way.

D.E.A.

VISIT OF THE FATHER SUPERIOR AND BROTHER THOMAS

Fr. Alfred Pedersen, Superior of the American Congregation of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, of which the Japanese Province is a part, arrived in Japan on October 30, accompanied by Brother Thomas, Guest Master and Secretary of Publications at the Mother House in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Fr. Pedersen plans to stay in Japan for about three weeks, making visits to Haruna and Sendai, in addition to our two houses, St. Michael's Monastery, Oyama, and St. John's House, Tokyo. Brother Thomas plans to stay about six weeks, in order that there may be one more person at the Mother House who has seen our work in Japan.

On their way to Japan the Father Superior and Brother Thomas spent a week visiting Fr. Morse in Taiwan. They report that Fr. Morse keeps as well as can be expected after his serious illnesses in the last few years, and manages to get into town nearly every day.



Our Japanese Novitiate: Bro. Peter Yoshida, Francis Koshiba, and Fr. Andrew Yamada.

COMMUNITY NOTES
ST. MICHAEL'S MONASTERY

The Annual Provincial Chapter was held at St. Michael's Monastery, Oyama, on June 16. Fr. Viall, Fr. Takeda, and Fr. Rowell attended from Tokyo.

Fr. Koizumi attended an Alumni meeting of the Bishop Williams Theological College in Kyoto June 22–24. Then he went to Kanazawa, where he stayed with our Priest Associate, Fr. Stephen Miyagishi, spoke to the Catechumens' Group at St. John's Church, and met some other young people interested in our life and work, and visited our Priest Associate, Fr. Enoch Mizutani in Kishiwada, where he was recovering from brain surgery in which a large blood clot was removed from his skull, where it had been pressing on nerves. We offer thanks to God for the rapid recovery which Fr. Mizutani seems to be making. After those visits, Fr. Koizumi spent the weekend of June 27–28 at St. Andrew's Church, Yokkaichi City, with one of his former classmates, before returning to Oyama.

Fr. Allen began taking services on the first Sunday of each month at the American Air Force Housing Area, Grant Heights, with the 5th of July. Other priests and layreaders take the services in turns on the other Sundays of the month.

On July 16 Fr. Viall brought two of the Benedictines from St. Anselm's Priory, Tokyo, Fr. Hildebrand, and Fr. Joseph, to Oyama as lunch guests. Both of them have been in Japan for nearly 40 years, and we have had a number of pleasant ecumenical contacts with them.

Fr. Koizumi and Fr. Viall went to visit the site of the proposed Agricultural School and Catechists Training Center, to be known as "Holy Cross

Sr. Elizabeth Suzuki and Sr. Elizabeth Kondo washing Fr. Kimura's gravestone, following Japanese custom. *(p. 9.)*

House", being planned by Mr. Isaac Nakamura, son of the late Bishop of Tohoku, at Yuri Machi, in Akita Prefecture, July 20–23, during which time they also conferred with Bp. Imai, the present Diocesan of Tohoku, at Sendai. Mr. Nakamura has asked us if we could help him by sending one of the Fathers from Oyama to Yuri from time to time to give spiritual guidance and instruction to the students, once the school has been established. Fr. Koizumi has been chosen, and will probably go to Yuri on his "free" Sunday in months that have five Sundays, until other arrangements can be made to allow him to go there more frequently. We have also been asked to help

in a more material way by asking our readers to consider "Holy Cross House" when thinking about making donations to work in Japan. A significant contribution has already been received from the Mother House of the SSJE as part of the annual giving to work outside the Society. You may be hearing more about this project in future issues of MITSUKAI.

Fr. Allen went to Towada Lake with Francis Koshiba, who was received as a Postulant of the Society at St. John's House on June 29, Paul Yasushi, one of the students living at St. John's House, and two other students, from July 20 to August 4, after which he visited Yuri Machi with Isaac Nakamura, and then St. Mary's Church, Sanjo, where our Associate, the Rev. Paul Nakamura (no relation, as far as I know) is Vicar. Because that church is Bro. Peter's "home parish", and is in the Diocese of Mid-Japan (companion Diocese with Spokane, Fr. Allen's home-diocese) he had three reasons for visiting there before returning to Oyama.

On August 15 Fr. Allen celebrated a Sung Mass at the convent of the Community of Divine Charity, Haruna, assisted by Fr. Oyama. The Sisters completed the observance of their Patronal Festival with refreshments and folk dancing under the trees in the playground of St. Joseph's Kindergarten, in spite of the threat of a typhoon.

Fr. Allen conducted a retreat for Candidates for Holy Orders and some of the clergy of the Tohoku Diocese at Sendai September 1–3. Addresses, services, and meals were at the Transfiguration Convent, but they slept at the Aoba Conference Center, and had one discussion period there.

Fr. Koizumi conducted the annual Kita Kanto Diocesan Women's Quiet Day at St. Michael's Monastery on Sept. 7.

Francis Koshiba moved from St. John's House to St. Michael's Monastery on September 9, and Fr. Andrew Yamada,

At the Associates' Meeting, Oct. 1, 1970.

Lunchtime during the Associates' meeting.

who had arrived on August 25, was received as a Postulant on September 10, bringing our Noviciate up to three members.

There was a meeting of Priest Associates at the Monastery September 30–October 1st, attended by six Associates, and six of us. Various parts of the Associates' Rule of Life were discussed, and it was decided not to make any changes at the present time. Plans were discussed for a retreat for Associates in the spring, or else allowing some of the Associates to attend our Provincial Retreat, if we are able to have one again next spring.

Fr. Allen represented the Society at the funeral of Bp. Yashiro, Primate of the Nippon Seikokai, on October 13 at St. Michael's Cathedral, Kobe, and took part in the Clergy Procession.

On October 24 Fr. Koizumi began inquirers' instruction at the Sawarabi Gakuen, a hospital for hopelessly defective children farther up Haruna Mountain from the Haruna-So Hospital and Old People's Homes. This may be a regular monthly work if a good response keeps up. He took part in the annual Founder's Day celebrations at Haruna-So on October 26, postponed from St. Luke's Day, and including remembrance of the second anniversary of Fr. Kimura's death.

Fr. Kimura's two nephews, Dr. Nicholas Muramatsu, and his brother, Wataru, and their families, and two of the Divine Charity Sisters, as well as several other people, visited St. Michael's Monastery on October 25, to commemorate the exact anniversary of his death. Fr. Allen read prayers at Fr. Kimura's grave, and that of his older sister, Sarah (Grandmother of the Muramatsu brothers).

Fr. Oyama was chosen to be one of the clerks at the Kita Kanto Diocesan Convention to be held November 23 at St. Luke's Church, Higashi Matsuyama.

D.E.A.

ST. JOHN'S HOUSE

To begin, more or less, where our previous account of St. John's House left off, we are able to report the gift of a range to replace our old one. Though not brand new, it has been thoroughly reconditioned and is functioning satisfactorily. It was the parting gift of a friend of long standing, Mr. Clement Gaskin, member of the congregation at Tachikawa Base, who has returned to the States for retirement. We believe, however, that the lure of Japan may bring him again for a visit and we look forward to showing our gratitude by having him here for dinner.

After years of consideration about paving our entrance road and parking space, a way suddenly opened through an introduction to a paving contractor by our neighbor, Mrs. Komuro. His estimate seemed reasonable and it was decided to go ahead. There was a good deal of noise and confusion for about two weeks while the job was going on but now that it is finished we no longer have to pick our way in and out through puddles and mud. When snow comes this winter it will be much easier to keep a path clear.

Our blind dog, Koku, about six weeks ago let himself out late one night, not into our garden enclosure, but into the woods. We reported him missing next day, when he failed to show up, but he had not had his collar replaced after a bath and so was without any identification. We had no news of him and gave up hope of ever seeing him again, thinking that his blindness and lack of experience of traffic would, if he strayed on to a road, make him an easy accident victim. If he were hit and killed, the lack of identification would mean that we should never know how or where he met his death. But nearly three weeks later he came home one morning, a bit thinner but not starved, and treated us as if we had been the ones who got lost. Someone, who did not know whose dog he was, must have kept him. When he succeeded in getting away, he came home, all the more remarkable a feat because of his blindness.

While Koku was gone we determined to have re-upholstered our Common Room sofa and easy chair, which he as a puppy had always considered and used as the most comfortable sleeping places. It was five or six years since they had been done and they were worn and shabby. Now we are trying, with some success, to teach Koku that a cushion on the floor can be equally comfortable. He is intelligent enough to know already that, when we are present and say "No" to his getting up on them, he must not do so. However, if no one is with him,

Fr. Rowell, Bp. Mathews Mar Coorilos, Bp. Viall, Bp. Mize, Fr. Sato, and Francis Koshiba (Postulant), at St. John's House.

old habits are strong and so we still find him sometimes curled up on the chair or sofa. He has not yet learned that, when so discovered, the wisest action to take is to get down at once.

At the end of July we had two distinguished guests over a week-end, Archbishop Mar Coorilos, Metropolitan of Kerala, of the Syrian Orthodox Church, and Bishop Robert Mize, an Associate of the Society for many years. Both were charming guests and our whole household was fascinated by their accounts of India and Africa.

Francis Koshiba was accepted as a Postulant in the Society on June 29th and remained with us at St. John's House during the summer, except for a holiday with Father Allen at Lake Towada in July. In early September, however, he went to St. Michael's, Oyama, to join Brother Peter in the Novitiate. At about the same time Father Andrew Yamada arrive to try his vocation. So now we have three in the Novitiate. We were very glad to have Francis with us at St. John's House this summer while our students were having their holidays. His help was invaluable in house-keeping while we were short-handed.

August was a holiday month. Father Viall had the first two weeks at Lake Towada with three or four young men, most of them members of Kiyose Church, our nearest parish. Except for Laurence Minabe, home from England on a year's leave from Kelham, roll call was like calling a group of the Apostles: John, Thomas, and Paul. In the Apostolic tradition they assisted the proclamation of the Gospel at St. Saviour's Chapel. This year four were confirmed and one infant baptized to swell the number of Christians at Lake Towada. Father Rowell had the rest of the month and during his time there some necessary repairs were

Sr. Ruth and Sr. Kimiko, CN, with two of the members of the Church at Towada Lake and the newly baptized baby of one of them.

made. The house is almost forty years old and from time to time some changes and improvements have been made but this year it was obvious that the sills, which had rotted, must be replaced. At the same time the shoji (sliding glass doors) which open on to the terrace were replaced with aluminum sash doors and metal shutters installed outside as a protection for the Winter. After his stay at Towada Father Rowell visited Noto Peninsula for the annual festival as he had done last year. Father Sato had his holiday in early September, spending it with his mother and family in Niigata Ken.

An ecumenical Day of Recollection planned for September 15 at Nazare Convent had to be cancelled at the last minute because of a local festival, which it was thought would be noisy. It had been planned for a small group of our Society, two Benedictine Fathers, and some Orthodox monks, including the Arch-

bishop. The liturgy of each Church, Orthodox, Anglican, and Roman was to have been celebrated at which all would have participated, though not receiving Communion except at their own Eucharist. The rest of the day was to have been kept in silence in prayer for unity. It is hoped that a future date can be arranged and that such a day can be held regularly, perhaps once a quarter.

On October 1st Kurume Machi, along with several other suburbs of Tokyo, was elevated to the status of "City", so it is now known as Higashi Kurume Shi, to distinguish it from Kurume Shi (City) in the island of Kyushu.

K.A.V.

COMMUNITY OF NAZARETH

At the end of June Mother Haruko visited the branch house (St. George's Convent) in Okinawa for conferences with the Sisters and Bishop Browning. During the two weeks of her visit a decision was reached about a permanent Convent building. It is seven years since the branch house was established and the need of a building designed for the life and work of Sisters has been increasingly apparent. A good deal of thought and prayer over these years has been given to this project and the decision to build is the outcome. The time is ripe, at least in one respect, in that the lease on the house now occupied as the Convent is to expire at the end of this year. The Associates of the Community in Japan are working to raise funds for the building but it is hoped that some help may be given from friends overseas. Interest in Japan over the reversion of the islands to Japanese control is very great and therefore the appeal for funds here is timely. Your prayers and gifts are also solicited for this project. If possible, we hope to begin to build early next year.

Another important decision has been made, again after much thought and prayer, at the Chapter meeting this summer: namely, to take over next year the work which the Community of the Transfiguration has been doing in Sendai, when the American Sisters are to return to their Mother House in Glendale. Already one of our Sisters has been sent to Sendai to live and work with the Sisters there and next Spring others will be sent to staff the new branch house there. This year four Sisters had their holiday at Lake Towada. As mentioned in another place there was a Baptism at Saint Saviour's Chapel and four young people were confirmed. The work of the Sisters in preparing these candidates was most helpful. Another year, because Sendai is half way to the Lake, it is likely that the Sisters will have more opportunity to visit the little group of

Nazareth Sisters in Okinawa.

Christians there and to do more evangelistic work.

Late in July six guests from Okinawa stayed with us at the Convent for several days while they were attending conferences of Sunday School and Kindergarten teachers.

Bp. Yashiro and some of the Nazareth Sisters, Kobe, January 6, 1968.

The meeting of Associates in Kansai was planned to coincide with the celebration of Bishop Yashiro's thirtieth anniversary of his consecration as Bishop of Kobe on September 29th, the feast of St. Michael and All Angels. About a month before that day the Bishop entered hospital and his condition was diagnosed as very grave from cancer. The celebration was held, though the Bishop could not be present. He recorded a message on tape which was played after the Eucharist at which two deacons were ordained by Bishop Ogasawara of Mid-Japan. There was a full attendance of all the diocesan clergy and many lay people. All of our Associates were present and fifteen new Associates were admitted at a later service by Bishop Viall, our Warden. In spite of Bishop Yashiro's weakness, in the early afternoon he asked to have those who had come from a distance to visit him in the hospital. Though the visit to him had necessarily to be very brief he prayed for all who came and blessed them. It was hard to realize that he was so very near death. His release from suffering came not very long afterwards. He entered into rest eternal on October 10. May he rest in peace!

The annual meeting of the Tokyo Associates was held at the Convent on October 22nd at which six new Associates were admitted and Bishop Nosse gave an address on the Associates rule of life.

The annual visitation by Bishop Goto, our Visitor, was on October 24th. Tea with the Visitor was a pleasant and informal occasion. Afterward he said Evensong with the Sisters and gave a talk on the problems and conditions of the Anglican Church throughout the world.

M.H.

Sr. Anna Theresa Yukie, CN, winding silk thread for making fringe, in the Nazareth vestment department.

COMMUNITY OF DIVINE CHARITY

Since the last report here are some of the activities of the Sisters of the Community of Divine Charity.

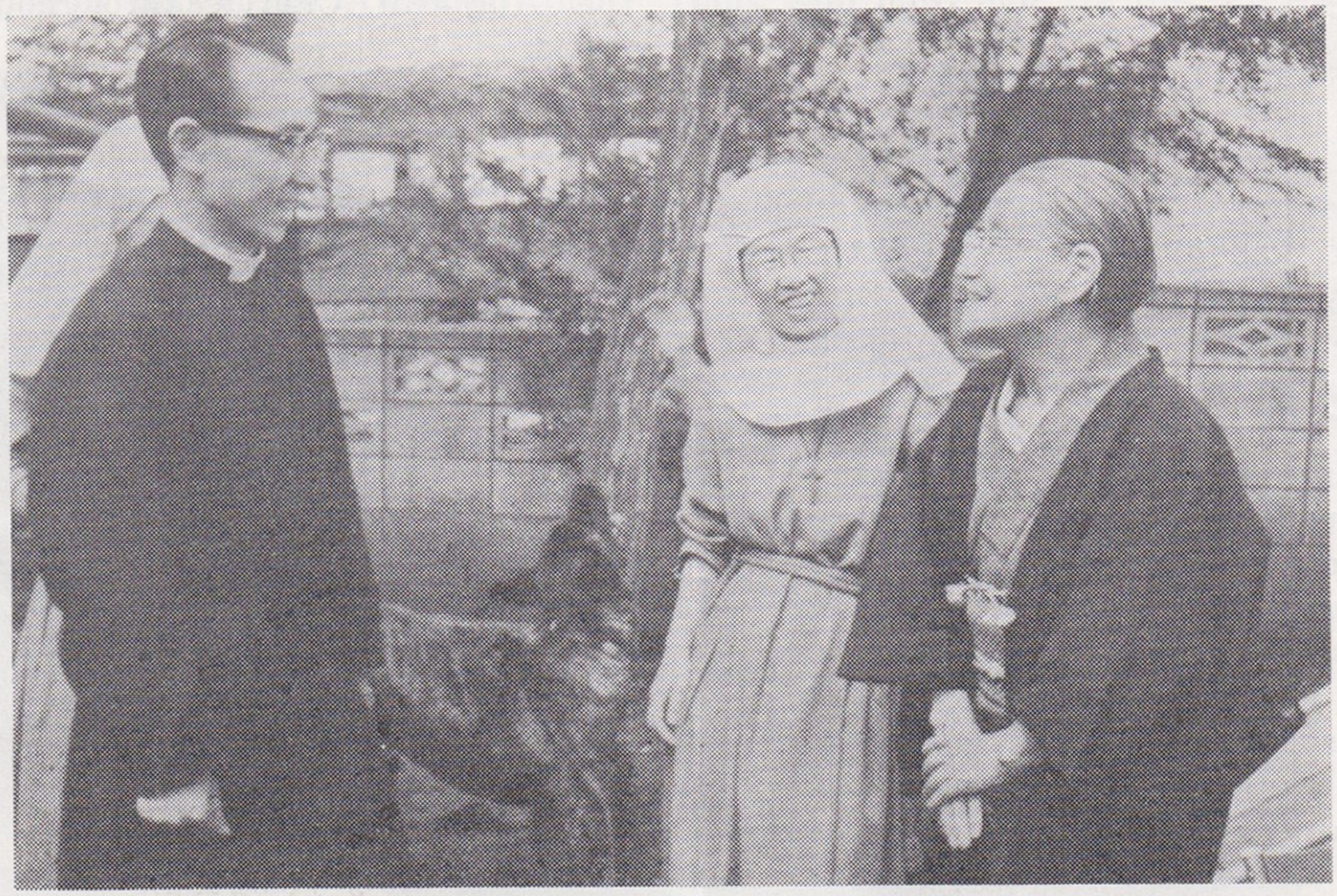
Sr. Margaret Hamano attended a conference of the kindergarten teachers of Gumma Prefecture on July 8.

On July 18 Bp. Goto of the Diocese of Tokyo brought his mother, who is 90 years old, to Haruna to spend the summer at the Convent, away from the Tokyo heat. Her cheerful presence was a joy to everyone during her stay, which lasted until the middle of September.

Sr. Hamano took 13 of the 6th graders from the Haruna Sunday School to Iwata, and to the seashore near there, leaving Haruna on July 26th, and returning on August 3rd. Together with the children at Iwata they went sightseeing, and swimming both in the Tonda River at Iwata, and in the ocean at Shirahama Spa, about an hour's drive from Iwata. On the way back to Haruna they stopped at Osaka and saw Expo '70. They stayed overnight at the Hakuaisha Orphanage that night. It is one of the institutions of the Diocese of Osaka.

There was a Vacation Bible School at Haruna, as in past years, held this year from August 1–5. Mother Theresa Fukada and Sr. Agnes Tanaka taught the children, assisted by Sr. Clara Koizumi and Sr. Damaris Amano, when their hospital duties permitted.

Fr. Allen celebrated a sung mass on August 15 for the Patronal Festival of the Community, assisted by Fr. Oyama. In the afternoon there was a "garden party" under the trees of the Kindergarten playground, attended by about 30 people from the Old People's Homes, Rehabilitation Center, and Nursing School. For a few minutes refreshments were



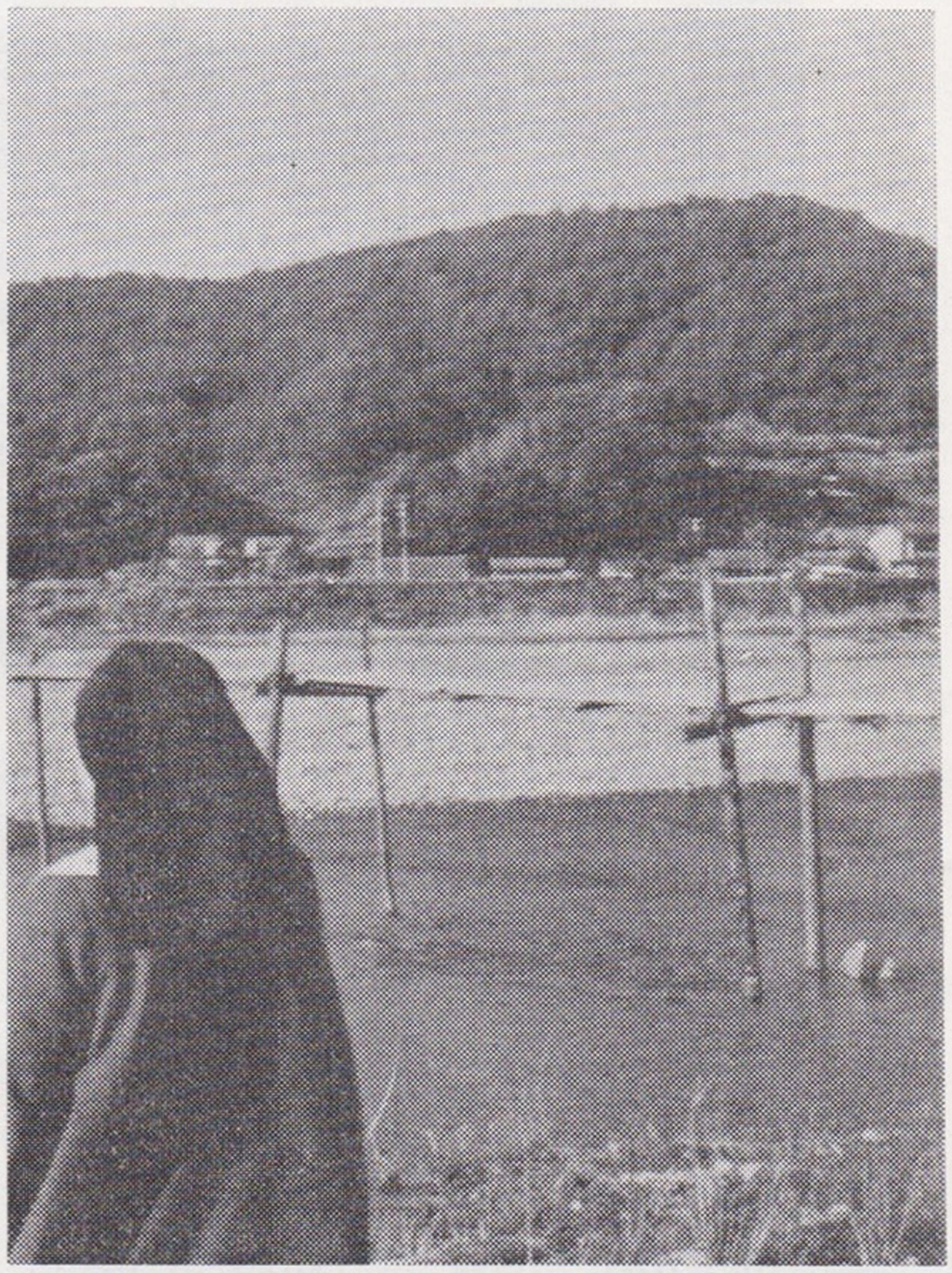
Fr. Oyama, "Leo", Sr. Elizabeth Suzuki, and Mrs. Goto. Haruna, August 15, 1970.

eaten under umbrellas as rain showers from a distant typhoon passed by. Some of the Sisters and student nurses entertained the older people with folk dances. Mother Theresa announced that when the Nursing Sisters move from the Haruna-So Hospital to Iwata, next year or the following, there will still be some Sisters left at Haruna to continue the Kindergarten, so this pleasant annual gathering will be continued.

On September 15 a meeting of the *Teresia Kai* (Associates of the Community—St. Theresa's Guild) met at the Diocesan House in Tokyo. Fr. Allen, Fr. Michael Matsumura, his son, Fr. Anthony Matsumura, and Fr. Owada of St. Margaret's School, attended, along with about 40 Associates, and five of the Sisters from Haruna. The purpose of the meeting was to present some of the plans for raising money for the "Ai-no-Sono" Special Old People's Home to be built at Iwata, and to discuss some of the problems in raising money for it. Colored slides of the site for the building of the Home, and of the present work with the Kindergarten at Iwata were shown. Everyone was asked to help with prayers and offerings.

One of the reasons for planning the new Old People's Home for the bedfast and handicapped is that there is need for such homes. But another reason is that the work at the Haruna-So Hospital has increased so much that the Sisters have come to find it difficult to lead the Religious Life while carrying out their responsibilities as nurses. At our own nursing home there will be more control over the time table, we believe.

It was the great privilege of our Community that the late Bp. Michael Yashiro was chairman of the committee for the establishment of the Old People's Home. We worked together with him for only a



Looking towards the site of the "Ai-no-Sono" Old People's Home from across the Tonda River at Iwata.

short period before his final illness, but even in that time we came to know the depth and breadth of his love. He encouraged Mother Theresa with the words, "Don't worry. Have trust, and faith will follow," even while he was lying on his bed in pain. He asked her to care for those unfortunate old people who are abandoned by this world. Therefore, the Sisters are trying diligently to gain everyone's good will in order to raise funds for their project. We hope that many people overseas who read this will pray for our work and help us by donations. We have already received some money from some Sunday School pupils in America. This work is both for the care of old people in their last days on this earth, and for an opportunity to

Oblate Agnes Tamate and Mother Theresa Fukada, CDC, on a picnic with staff members of Haruna So.

deepen our own Religious Life in order to work and pray more effectively for our Lord.

On October 17 the Sisters and Kindergarten children participated in a field day at the playground of the nearby Primary School No. 2.

Early in October a group of students from the Christian Studies Department of Heian (St. Agnes) Jr. College in Kyoto, accompanied by their chaplain, Fr. Paul Tachikawa, visited the Sisters at Iwata.

On the second anniversary of Fr. Kimura's death, October 25, the Sisters listened in their common room to the tape recording of his last talk with them. Fr. Koizumi celebrated a requiem in his memory in the Sister's Chapel on the 26th.

As we enter November, at the time of writing these notes, the autumn leaves are almost gone, and the approach of winter can be felt. The Sisters of Divine Charity have lived here at Haruna in the midst of the quiet of Nature for over 20 years now, and we are encouraged by the number of companions who have joined us. Nevertheless, at the present time we have no new members. Please pray that God will send some aspirants to become Sisters in our Community.

CONGRATULATIONS !

Our congratulations go to Fr. John Lewis, SSM, Prior of Kobe Priory of the Society of the Sacred Mission, who has been elected Bishop of the Diocese of North Queensland, Australia. Fr. Lewis has served in that Diocese as a priest in one of the priories of the Kelham Fathers, so it will not be new territory to him. Our only regret is that this honor means that Fr. John, as he is alternatively known, must leave Japan in December in order to be consecrated and take up his new duties.